



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

April 8, 2013

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques and other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 – 17th Street N.W., Washington, D.C., 20503. Commentors are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential

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persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Forest Service

TITLE: Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest Transportation System Alternatives Study

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0596-NEW

SUMMARY OF COLLECTION: Under the authorities of the Forest Service Administration Organic Act of 1897 (16 U.S.C. 473-478, 479-482, and 551) as amended, by the Transfer Act of 1905 (16 U.S.C. 472, 524, and 554), the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources and Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. chapter 36) as amended and other authorities the Forest Service (FS) is obligated to actively solicit public input to improve National Forest system lands management to better serve the public. The Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest (ARNF) lies in the Front Range of Colorado, a complex of federal land units and population centers, most notably Denver. Brainard Lake Recreation Area, including the Indian Peaks Wilderness, Guanella Pass and Mount Evans Recreation Center has been identified as the three sites within ARNF facing the most immediate transportation system needs. Intense use of these sites is negatively impacting traffic safety, recreation experience, and the natural resources.

NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION: The FS is evaluating the potential for the addition of alternative transportation to existing recreation transportation systems accessing these sites. The project will collect information that will help the FS improve transportation conditions, and recreation and resource management on the ARNF. In the summer of 2013, the Forest Service will use survey instruments designed to collect feedback from visitors to assess their perceptions, experiences, expectations and opinions about potential changes in the transportation system and the impact it would have on their recreation experience.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Individuals or households; Federal Government

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NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 1,700

FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES: Reporting: On occasion

TOTAL BURDEN HOURS: 238

Forest Service

TITLE: McKenzie River and Trail Visitor Surveys, Flathead Wild and Scenic River Visitor Survey

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0596-0229

SUMMARY OF COLLECTION: The Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (RPA) (P.L. 93-378) guides planning and inventory activities on the National Forests. It requires the agency to inventory resources in the National Forests, including recreation opportunities, and to periodically review and update these assessments. The Forest Service Willamette National Forest and Flathead National Forest, in co-operation with National Park Service Glacier National Park, are proposing to continue collecting information in 2013, and if needed extended into 2014, from forest visitors using the Flathead and McKenzie and Wild and Scenic Rivers and McKenzie River National Recreational Trail. The McKenzie visitor survey will (1) support implementation of the existing Willamette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (USFS 1990) and Upper McKenzie River Management Plan (“UMRMP,” USFS 1992), (2) assess changes in visitor experience that have occurred since a previous river study in 1996, and (3) inform management practices to protect and enhance the outstandingly remarkable values identified for the McKenzie River, as required by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Flathead visitor survey, which is being conducted in partnership with Glacier National Park, will (1) support the development of a Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP) and, in particular, will assist managers in determining a user capacity for the river, both of which

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are statutory requirements of the Wild and Scenic River Act and (2) help determine the allocation of service days for outfitters and guides and develop thresholds and standards for important, measurable attributes.

NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION: The information will be used in conjunction with other information about natural resource conditions by Flathead and Willamette National Forest and Glacier National Park managers in taking actions to provide optimum recreation experiences for visitors, while still protecting the natural resource. Information from this study will help managers determine how well river and trail values are being protected and what actions may be needed to ensure the outstandingly remarkable values for which the rivers were designated is protected and enhanced. The surveys will be administered on-site. Collecting thoughts from the public on how these areas should be managed and consideration of their interest and priorities is a critical component to developing a fair and balanced management plan and strategy. Without the public's involvement, a plan has the risk of being biased and ineffective. Without the information from this survey, managers would not have representative information about public perceptions and preferences.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Individuals or households

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 3,300

FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES: Reporting: On occasion

TOTAL BURDEN HOURS: 1.213

Charlene Parker
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer